

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

Release Date: August 15, 2007 **Contact:** Richard Jenkins **Release Number:** OK 10927-03 **Phone:** (916) 735-1500

LAWTON MOBILE DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER TRANSITIONS TO SBA DISASTER LOAN OUTREACH CENTER

SACRAMENTO – Dorothy Overal, District Director of the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Oklahoma office, announced today that the Mobile Disaster Recovery Center (MDRC) in Lawton has transitioned to a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loan Outreach Center (DLOC). The Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management (OEM), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the SBA opened the MDRC to provide personal assistance and disaster information to individuals and businesses who suffered damage as a result of the severe storms, flooding and tornadoes that occurred June 10 through July 25.

"So far, SBA has approved more than \$7.6 million in low interest disaster loans to Oklahoma residents and businesses hurt by the severe storms, flooding and tornadoes," said Overal. "At this stage of the recovery process, the emphasis for assistance is to meet the long-term needs of victims. We believe the transition of the Lawton Mobile Disaster Recovery Center to an SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center will better meet the current needs of Comanche County residents and businesses," she continued.

At the SBA Outreach Center, which continues to be located at **4135 West Gore Boulevard in Lawton,** SBA customer service representatives are available to provide individuals and business owners with face-to-face service in completing their loan applications, answering questions about SBA's loan program, and explaining how an SBA disaster loan can help pay for their disaster losses.

Individuals and businesses who sustained losses from the June 10 through July 25 severe storms can speak with SBA representatives without an appointment Mondays through Fridays, 9 am to 6 pm, through close of business on Wednesday, August 29, when the center closes.

SBA representatives also continue to be on hand to issue applications, explain the application process, and help each individual and business owner complete their application at Mobile Disaster Recovery Centers and Disaster Loan Outreach Centers throughout the state (see attached list).

SBA disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

Businesses of any size and private non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses only, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Interest rates can be as low as 2.875 percent for homeowners and renters and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. SBA sets loan amounts and terms based upon each applicant's financial condition.

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, victims must first call the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at 1-800-621-3362. For additional information about SBA disaster assistance, call the SBA Customer Service Center at **(800) 659-2955**, or visit SBA's website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

The **filing deadline** to return applications for property damage is **September 5, 2007**. The EIDL deadline is **April 7, 2008**.

The following Mobile Disaster Recovery Centers and Disaster Loan Outreach Centers will be open on the indicated days and times:

Blaine County

Watonga

Mobile Disaster Recovery Center Foley Building 7th Street and North Laing Avenue

Open: Thursday, August 30 through Tuesday, September 4

Thursday – Tuesday Only 8 am – 6 pm

Canadian County

El Reno

Mobile Disaster Recovery Center Canadian Valley Tech Center 6505 East Hwy 66, Room #133

Open: Thursday, August 16 Through Tuesday, August 21

Thursday – Tuesday Only 8 am – 6 pm

Grady County Pocasset

Mobile Disaster Recovery Center Pocasset Community Center 530 South Main Street

Open: Thursday, August 23 through Tuesday, August 28

Thursday – Tuesday Only 8 am – 6 pm

Nowata County South Coffeyville

Disaster Loan Outreach Center New City Hall 419 Willow Street

Thursdays and Fridays Only 9 am – 6 pm

Bryan County

Durant

Mobile Disaster Recovery Center Bryan County Fairgrounds Hagard Hall 1901 South 9th Avenue

Open: Thursday, August 23 through Tuesday, August 28

Thursday – Tuesday Only 8 am – 6 pm

Cleveland County

Norman

Mobile Disaster Recovery Center Fairgrounds South Building 605 East Robinson

Open: Thursday, August 23 through Tuesday, August 28

Thursday – Tuesday Only 8 am – 6 pm

Kiowa County Hobart

Mobile Disaster Recovery Center Public Works Building Community Room 410 South Washington Street

Open: Thursday, August 30 through Tuesday, September 4

Thursday – Tuesday Only 8 am – 6 pm

Oklahoma County Oklahoma City

Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) Capitol Hill Lions Center 3800 South Robinson Avenue

> Mondays – Saturdays 8 am – 6 pm

(more)

Ottawa County Miami

Disaster Recovery Center Furniture Gallery 1601 North Main

Mondays – Saturdays 8 am – 6 pm

Seminole County Seminole

Mobile Disaster Recovery Center Jimmy Austin Gold Course City of Seminole Community Room 1605 North Main Street

Open: Thursday, August 30 through Tuesday, September 4

Thursday – Tuesday Only 8 am – 6 pm

Washington County

Bartlesville

Disaster Loan Outreach Center Bartlesville Public Library 600 South Johnstone Avenue

> Opens: Monday July 30 Mondays - Wednesdays 9 am – 6 pm

Rogers County Claremore

Mobile Disaster Recovery Center 416 South Brady Street

Open: Thursday, August 16 through Tuesday, August 21

Thursday – Tuesday Only 8 am – 6 pm

Stephens County Duncan

Mobile Disaster Recovery Center Red River Technology Center 3300 West Bois D'Arc Avenue

Open through Tuesday, August 21

Tuesday – Tuesday 8 am – 6 pm